



Blacksburg Primary

1010 East Cherokee Street
Blacksburg, S. C. 29702

Grades	PK-2 Primary School	
Enrollment	490 Students	
Principal	Malinda Patterson	864-839-1106
Superintendent	Dr. William B. James	864-902-3500
Board Chair	Mr. Billy Blackwell	864-902-3542

THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA 2008 ANNUAL SCHOOL REPORT CARD

RATINGS OVER 5-YEAR PERIOD

Year	Absolute Rating	Growth Rating
2008	N/A	N/A
2007	N/A	N/A
2006	Excellent	Good
2005	Excellent	N/A
2004	N/A	N/A

DEFINITIONS OF DISTRICT RATING TERMS

- Excellent – District performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Good – District performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Average – District performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- Below Average – District is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal
- At-Risk – District performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal

SOUTH CAROLINA PERFORMANCE GOAL

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the fastest improving systems in the country.

ABSOLUTE RATINGS OF PRIMARY SCHOOLS WITH STUDENTS LIKE OURS*

Excellent	Good	Average	Below Average	At-Risk
7	0	0	0	0

* Ratings are calculated with data available by September 30. Primary Schools with Students like Ours are primary schools with Poverty Indices of no more than 5% above or below the index for this school.

Performance Rating Criteria

Prime instructional time	89.9%
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	12.4 to 1
Teachers with advanced degrees	38.7%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A
Percent of parents attending conferences	100.0%
Days of professional development devoted exclusively to knowledge and skills working with children less than eight years old	16.3 days

Types Of Accreditation (More Than One May Apply)

	Not pursuing accreditation
	Conducting a self-study
X	South Carolina Department of Education
X	Southern Association of Colleges and School
X	American Montessori Society
	National Association for the Education of Young Children

School Profile

	Our School	Change from Last Year	Primary Schools with Students Like Ours	Median Primary School
Students (n=490)				
First graders who attended full-day kindergarten	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Retention rate	0.5%	Down from 2.9%	3.1%	4.0%
Attendance rate	95.6%	No Change	95.4%	95.6%
With disabilities other than speech	2.6%	Up from 1.9%	4.0%	4.0%
Older than usual for grade	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Out-of-school suspensions or expulsions for violent &/or criminal offenses	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers (n=31)				
Teachers with advanced degrees	38.7%	Down from 41.9%	55.6%	56.8%
Continuing contract teachers	83.9%	No Change	83.9%	81.3%
Teachers with emergency or provisional certificates	0.0%	No Change	0.0%	0.0%
Teachers returning from previous year	N/A	N/A	89.3%	88.6%
Teacher attendance rate	95.3%	Up from 93.3%	95.0%	94.9%
Average teacher salary	\$43,455	Up 2.4%	\$45,443	\$45,806
Professional development days/teacher	21.2 days	Up from 11.0 days	21.6 days	18.1 days
School				
Principal's years at school	1.0	Down from 3.0	3.0	4.0
Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	12.4 to 1	Down from 20.7 to 1	18.3 to 1	18.7 to 1
Prime instructional time	89.9%	Up from 87.9%	88.8%	88.6%
Opportunities in the arts	Good	No Change	Good	Good
SACS accreditation	Yes	No Change	Yes	Yes
Parents attending conferences	100.0%	No Change	100.0%	100.0%
Character development program	Good	No Change	Excellent	Excellent
Dollars spent per pupil*	\$5,245	Down 3.6%	\$6,534	\$6,510
Percent of expenditures for instruction*	71.2%	Down from 73.1%	71.2%	71.0%
Percent of expenditures for teacher salaries*	68.0%	Down from 70.2%	68.0%	64.2%

* Prior year audited financial data are reported.

Abbreviations for Missing Data

N/A--Not Applicable N/AV--Not Available N/C--Not Collected N/R--Not Reported I/S--Insufficient Sample

Report of Principal and School Improvement Council

We are extremely proud of the students, faculty, and staff of Blacksburg Primary for their hard work and dedication this year. We have made improvements and gains in many areas to help our students take a giant step forward in becoming successful students and lifelong learners. While creating a safe and nurturing environment, we strive to engage students through the best instructional practices and challenging experiences. It is our goal to provide multi-sensory instruction and developmental-appropriate activities for all students. We believe that at the primary level, a foundation for education is built and that these years are very important years in a student's success. We believe that "Kids are Special People" and that all kids can learn.

In an effort to increase achievement and improve student learning, Blacksburg Primary established a Professional Learning Community. We met weekly, focusing on reading/writing and developmental-appropriate activities that meet the needs of young children. We also focused on activities that help meet the social/emotional needs of primary children. We completed our final year of the South Carolina Reading Initiative. We had extensive staff development in reading, writing, and the use of technology. Two teachers were Reading Recovery trained, and six teachers completed Montessori training and received certification. We were able to offer reading intervention to small groups of students to help bring them up to grade level in reading and writing. We implemented a Montessori first grade and will add an additional Montessori first-grade class during the 2008-2009 school year. We will continue to offer 3K, 4K, and 5K Creative Curriculum and Montessori classrooms. All of our 4K classes are full day.

Mrs. Lindsay Feller was our Teacher of the Year, and Mrs. Terri Phillips was our Reading Teacher of the Year. We have two teachers who have received National Board Certification and several others who are pursuing that certification. Our school is very active in community projects. We participated in Jump Rope For Heart, Relay For Life, March of Dimes, and the Reduce Reuse Recycle Campaign. Blacksburg Primary took the top honor in this twelve weeks campaign. We recycled 9,576 pounds of paper.

As we look ahead to the 2008-2009 year, we will make it a priority, as always, to ensure that your children receive a strong beginning to their educational career in the safest environment possible. We will continue our emphasis on reading, writing, and mathematics. The use of manipulatives in mathematics will continue to be emphasized in helping students work from the concrete to the abstract. We will have a heavy emphasis on "Thinking Maps" and critical thinking activities. We thank you for your continued support and look forward to a prosperous 2008-2009 year.

Malinda Patterson, Principal
Beth McCall, SIC Chair

Evaluations by Teachers

	Teachers
Number of surveys returned	28
Percent satisfied with learning environment	89.3%
Percent satisfied with social and physical environment	100.0%
Percent satisfied with school-home relations	82.1%

School Adequate Yearly Progress

YES

* Definition: As required by the United States Department of Education, Adequate Yearly Progress specifies that the statewide target is met for "All Students" and for the following subgroups: Racial/Ethnic, Subsidized Meals, Disability, and Limited English Proficiency in the areas of English/Language Arts and Mathematics, as well as meeting the statewide target for "All Students" for attendance or graduation rate.

Teacher Quality and Student Attendance

	Our District	State
Classes in low poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	1.8%
Classes in high poverty schools not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	6.8%

	Our School	State Objective	Met State Objective
Classes not taught by highly qualified teachers	0.0%	0.0%	Yes
Student attendance rate	95.6%	94.0%	Yes

* Or greater than last year

Abbreviations for Missing Data